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Coordination, programme and other questions: Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-President of the Council, Mr. Agim Nesho (Albania), on the basis of informal consultations

Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 2003/18 of 22 July 2003,

Having considered the report of the Executive Director of the Joint Programme,[1]

Recalling the goals and targets set forth in the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS,[2] adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-sixth special session in 2001, and the HIV/AIDS-related goals contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration of 2000,[3]

Reaffirming the importance of the follow-up process prescribed by the Declaration, which included the setting of specific time-bound targets, which fall due in 2005 and 2010, and noting in this regard the high-level meeting of the General Assembly to review progress achieved in realizing the commitments set out in the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS, held on 2 June 2005,

Noting with profound concern that 39.4 million people worldwide are living with HIV/AIDS, that the pandemic claimed 3.1 million lives in 2004, with 4.9 million new HIV infections, and that it has orphaned 15 million children to date,

Deeply concerned that the global HIV/AIDS pandemic has a disproportionate impact on women and girls and that the majority of new infections occur among young people,

[1] E/2005/59.
[2] General Assembly resolution S-26/2, annex.
[3] See General Assembly resolution 55/2.

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Expressing serious concern about the continued global spread of HIV/AIDS, which exacerbates poverty and poses a major threat to economic and social development and to food security in heavily affected regions,

Noting the need for greater coherence and accountability in the responses to the HIV/AIDS pandemic,

Recognizing the importance of partnerships at the national, regional and international levels as part of the responses to HIV/AIDS, including for prevention, care, support and treatment, as well as the importance of enhanced support for human and institutional capacity development and of considerably increased financial resources,

Welcoming the World Food Programme and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees as the ninth and tenth co-sponsors of the Joint Programme,

1. *Urges* the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) and the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, to intensify their support to Governments, with a view to achieving the goals contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[1] as well as the goals and targets contained in the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS;[2]

2. *Encourages* Governments to report fully in preparation for the report of the Secretary-General to the sixtieth session of the General Assembly on the implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS;

3. *Welcomes* the support given by the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS at its fifteenth, sixteenth and seventeenth meetings to the commitment of the Joint Programme to expanding technical support, building capacity and promoting coordinated and comprehensive responses at country level, in particular through the implementation of the "three ones" principle for country-level coordination, and in taking into consideration the recommendations of the Global Task Team on Improving AIDS Coordination among Multilateral Institutions and International Donors;

4. *Also welcomes* the intensification of joint regional United Nations action on HIV/AIDS, through improved communications between agencies at the regional level and through initiatives such as the regional support teams established by the Programme to mobilize and leverage technical, financial and political support for the joint country-level efforts by the United Nations, largely through the country offices of the Programme in their respective regions, to assist national HIV/AIDS responses;

5. *Encourages* the Programme and the World Health Organization to intensify their work with the international community in achieving the "3 by 5" target;

6. *Also encourages* the Programme to continue to promote and support countries in the development of evidence-informed HIV/AIDS strategies, including efforts towards universal access to prevention, treatment and care services, recognizing the importance of a comprehensive approach to HIV/AIDS;

7. *Takes note with interest* of the endorsement by the Programme Coordinating Board at its seventeenth meeting, of the policy position paper of the

Joint Programme entitled "Intensifying HIV Prevention", and urges the Programme to strengthen its leadership of global and regional efforts, as appropriate, and support national efforts to intensify HIV prevention as part of a comprehensive, coordinated and coherent response to HIV/AIDS;

8. *Encourages* the activities of the Programme to strengthen, streamline and harmonize monitoring and evaluation efforts at the global, regional and country levels, in particular its efforts to rapidly improve monitoring and evaluation systems in priority countries through the provision of technical support and the posting of specialist staff in these and other countries;

9. *Commends* the Programme and its partners for launching the Global Coalition on Women and AIDS, and calls for strengthened and improved action related to women and HIV/AIDS through intensified efforts by Governments, United Nations agencies, civil society and the private sector;

10. *Takes note with appreciation* of the endorsement of the Programme Coordinating Board, at its seventeenth meeting, of the recommendations of the Global Task Team on Improving AIDS Coordination among Multilateral Institutions and International Donors, and calls upon the Programme and the wider United Nations system and invites other multilateral institutions to implement the recommendations, as appropriate;

11. *Supports* the efforts of the Programme to advocate that increased resources be devoted to the response to HIV/AIDS and to explore innovative options for expanding the funding base, both nationally and internationally;

12. *Commends* the Programme for strengthening the results-based management framework and simplifying the 2006-2007 unified budget and work plan, as requested by the Programme Coordinating Board at its sixteenth meeting;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the Economic and Social Council, at its substantive session of 2007, a report prepared by the Executive Director of the Joint Programme, in collaboration with other relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, which should include information on progress made in implementing the coordinated response of the United Nations system to the HIV/AIDS pandemic as well as the decisions, recommendations and conclusions of the Programme Coordinating Board taken subsequent to the substantive session of the Council in 2005.